

MARTIN PARR

The Last Resort (1983-1985)
Luxury (1995-present)

About Martin Parr

Martin Parr is a pioneer of contemporary photographic culture, an avid photography book collector and the president of Magnum Photos. In addition to large-scale retrospectives of his work in the Barbican Art Gallery in London (2002), Haus de Kunst in Munich (2008) and other prestigious venues, Parr's accolades have included the Dr. Erich Salomon Award of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Photographie (DGPh) (2006) and Photo Espania lifetime achievement prize (2008). He is the co-author of three volumes of the highly influential *The Photobook: A History*, and he is currently working on a book about the History of Chinese Photobook to be published in spring 2015. Parr has published over 80 books of his own work and edited another 30.

Martin Parr currently lives in Bristol, UK.

About the series

Bridging the divide between art and documentary photography, Parr's work features the recurrent subjects of consumption, leisure, food culture and national eccentricities.

An iconic series on its publication in 1986 and Parr's first work in colour, *The Last Resort* portrays Britain's working classes vacating at the decaying holiday resort of Brighton, a metaphor for the country's dreams and struggles in the early 1980s. Shot in various locations across the world, *Luxury* depicts the rich showing off their wealth in different scenarios, as an epigraph to today's culture of excess and greed.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"Martin Parr"

6 September - 1 November 2014

**Opening Reception and Book Signing: Saturday, 6 September 2014, 4 – 6pm
(Guided Tour by Artist at 3 – 4pm)**

Venue: Blindspot Gallery (15/F, Po Chai Industrial Building, 28 Wong Chuk Hang Road,
Wong Chuk Hang, Hong Kong)

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10:30am to 6:30pm (Sunday and Monday by
appointment only); closed on public holidays

***"I make serious photographs disguised as entertainment. That's part of my mantra."
– Martin Parr***



Blindspot Gallery is delighted to present British photographer Martin Parr's first solo exhibition in Hong Kong, "Martin Parr", a diverse showcase of the work of Parr who is famous for his satirical and humorous social documentary on modern life. The exhibition spotlights select works from his recent *Hong Kong* project (2013) commissioned by Blindspot Gallery, alongside selections from two of his iconic past series, *The Last Resort* (1983 to 1985) and *Luxury* (1995 to present). An art book titled *Hong Kong Parr* will be co-published by Blindspot Gallery, riding on the opening of the artist's debut solo show in Hong Kong.

Bridging the divide between art and documentary photography, Parr's work features the recurrent subjects of consumption, leisure, food culture and national eccentricities, which take on a vibrant rendition in his *Hong Kong* project. From the faces of Mainland tourists in Hong Kong's shopping districts, local people in an entertainment whirlwind at the racecourse or the ballroom, to gory raw food in the wet market, Parr captures the intensity of urban life in Hong Kong as well as the social and cultural peculiarities of the city.

An iconic series on its publication in 1986 and Parr's first work in colour, *The Last Resort* portrays Britain's working classes vacating at the decaying holiday resort of New Brighton in the early 1980s. Shot in various locations across the world, *Luxury* depicts the rich showing off their wealth in different scenarios, as an epigraph to today's culture of excess and greed.

In collaboration with the Hong Kong International Photo Festival (HKIPF), a public talk on Parr's work will be held on 7 September at Hong Kong Central Library. In the talk, Parr will discuss his long career in photography and explain how both the world of photography and his practice have changed.

Martin Parr will be present at the opening reception and provide a guided tour. Media interviews are welcome and can be arranged.

Blindspot Gallery would like to acknowledge Project Producer Ezra Emerson, Shooting Assistants Phil Shek and Paul Yeung for the *Hong Kong* project.



About Martin Parr

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About Blindspot Gallery

Blindspot Gallery is set up to bring contemporary photography, an art form that has entered the blind spot of the Hong Kong art scene to a higher degree of visibility. We feature both established and emerging photographers and artists, mainly from the region but also beyond.

For enquiries and media interviews, please contact Ms. Lesley Kwok at 2517 6238 or by email info@blindspotgallery.com

Image captions:

Martin Parr, *Hong Kong*, 2013, Pigment print, 101.6 x 152.4 cm (Ed. of 5 + AP) / 50.8 x 76.2 cm (Ed. of 10 + AP)

Martin Parr, *England. New Brighton. From 'The Last Resort'*, 1983-1985, Pigment print, 101.6 x 127 cm (Ed. of 5 + AP) / C-print, 42 x 51.5 cm (Uneditioned)

Martin Parr, *Ireland. Galway Races*, 1997, C-print, 101.6 x 152.4 cm (Ed. of 5 + AP) / 50.8 x 76.2 cm (Ed. of 25 + AP)

(Images courtesy of artist Martin Parr, Blindspot Gallery and Magnum Photos)

The Last Resort
(1983-1985)



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6955)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6959)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6964)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6968)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6971)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



**England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.**

(LON6975)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



**England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.**

(LON6977)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6978)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6979)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6985)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6989)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6990)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6991)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned



England. New Brighton.
From 'The Last Resort'.
(LON6994)
1983-1985

Pigment print
101.6 x 127 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

C-print
42 x 51.5 cm
Uneditioned

Luxury
(1995-present)



England. London.

(LON8434)

1995

C-print

Edition of 10 (including both S & L) + AP
for each size

101.6 x 152.4 cm

50.8 x 76.2 cm



Ireland. Galway Races.

(LON29302)

1997

C-print

101.6 x 152.4 cm

Edition of 5 + AP

50.8 x 76.2 cm

Edition of 25 + AP



England. Ascot.
(LON53509)
2003
C-print

101.6 x 152.4 cm
Edition of 5 + AP

50.8 x 76.2 cm
Edition of 10 + AP



Russia. Moscow. Fashion Week.

(LON65173)

2004

Pigment print

152.4 x 101.6cm

Edition of 5 + AP

76.2 x 50.8 cm

Edition of 10 + AP



Russia. Moscow. Fashion Week.

(LON65183)

2004

Pigment print

152.4 x 101.6cm

Edition of 5 + AP

76.2 x 50.8 cm

Edition of 10 + AP



Russia. Moscow. The Millionaire Fair.

(LON96715)

2007

Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm

Edition of 5 + AP

50.8 x 76.2 cm

Edition of 10 + AP



Russia. Moscow. The Millionaire Fair.
(LON96724)

2007

Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm

Edition of 5 + AP

50.8 x 76.2 cm

Edition of 10 + AP



France. Paris. Haute Couture.

(LON97178)

2007

Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm

Edition of 5 + AP

50.8 x 76.2 cm

Edition of 10 + AP



England. Ascot.

(LON151803)

2013

Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm

Edition of 5 + AP

50.8 x 76.2 cm

Edition of 10 + AP



**England. Ladies Day at Goodwood
Racecourse.**

(LON153827)

2013

Pigment print

101.6 x 152.4 cm

Edition of 5 + AP

50.8 x 76.2 cm

Edition of 10 + AP

Martin Parr (b. 1952)

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2014 “Martin Parr”, Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
- “Life’s a Beach and Machu Picchu”, Lima Photo Biennial, Centro Cultural Britanico, Lima, Peru
- “Martin Parr’s Paris”, Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, France
- 2013 “Only in England (The Non-Conformists) with Tony Ray-Jones”, Media Space, London, UK
- “Martin Parr / Retrospective”, Galerie Paris-Beijing, Brussels, Belgium
- 2012 “No Worries”, FotoFreo 2012, Western Australian Maritime Museum, Freemantle, Australia
- “Life’s a Beach”, Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon, Lyon, France
- “Souvenir. Martin Parr, Photography and Collecting”, Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
- 2009 “Planète Parr”, Jeu de Paume, Paris, France
- 2008 “ParrWorld”, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
- 2005 “Life along the A8 Corridor”, The Lighthouse, Glasgow, UK
- 2002 “Retrospective, Martin Parr Photoworks 1971-2000”, Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK
- “The Phone Show”, Rocket Gallery, London, UK
- 1999 “Common Sense”, Rocket Gallery, London, UK
- 1998 “Ooh La La”, National Media Museum, Bradford, UK
- 1995 “Home and Abroad”, International Photography Meeting, Plovdiv, Bulgaria
- “Small World”, Photographer’s Gallery, London, UK
- 1994 “From A to B”, 27 Welcome Break service stations, UK
- 1993 “Home and Abroad”, Watershed Gallery, Bristol, UK and tour
- “Bored Couples”, Galerie du Jour, Paris, France and subsequent tour
- “A Year in the Life of Chew Stoke”, Chew Stoke Village Hall, Somerset, UK
- 1986 “The Last Resort”, Serpentine Gallery, London, UK
- 1984 “A Fair Day”, Orchard Gallery, Derry, Ireland and tour
- 1982 “Bad Weather”, Photographer’s Gallery, London, UK and tour
- 1981 “The Non-Conformists”, Camerawork, London, UK
- 1978 “This is Your Life”, South Pennine Information Centre, Hebden Bridge, UK
- 1976 “Beauty Spots”, Impressions Gallery, York, UK and tour
- 1974 “Home Sweet Home”, Impressions Gallery, York, UK

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2014 “Playgrounds”, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain
“Open For Business”, National Media Museum Bradford, UK
- 2012 “Glam! The Performance of Style”, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
- 2009 “Georgian Spring”, UferHallen, Berlin, Germany
- 2008 “No Such Thing As Society: Photography in Britain 1968-1987”, Leeds City Art Gallery, Leeds, UK
“No Such Thing As Society: Photography in Britain 1968-1987”, Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery, Cumbria, UK
“Street and Studio”, Tate Modern, London, UK
- 2006 “Click Double Click”, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany; Palais des Beaux-Arts, Brussels, Belgium
- 2003 “Cruel & Tender”, Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany; Tate Modern, London, UK
- 1996 “Who’s Looking at the Family?”, Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK
- 1991 “British Photography from the Thatcher Years”, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
- 1989 “The Art of Photography”, Royal Academy, London, UK
- 1986 “British Contemporary Photography”, Houston Foto Festival, Houston, USA
- 1978 “Art for Society”, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK
- 1973 “Serpentine 73”, Serpentine Gallery, London, UK
- 1972 “Butlins by the Sea (with Daniel Meadows)”, Impressions Gallery, York, UK
- 1971 “Students of Manchester Polytechnic”, Kendal Milne Department Store, Manchester, UK

Selected Awards

- 2014 Lucie Awards - Honoree: Achievement in Documentary
- 2008 Photo Espania lifetime achievement prize
Honorary Degree, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK
The Royal Photographic Society - Centenary Award
The Photographic Society of Japan - International Award
Photo Espania Award for Photographic achievement
- 2007 2006 Kraszna Krausz Book Award - Photobook, A History, Vol 1 and 2 with Gerry Badger
- 2006 Honorary Master’s degree, University for the Creative Arts, UK
Moscow House of Photography - International photography prize
Dr. Erich Salomon Award of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Photographie (DGPh)
- 2005 The Royal Photographic Society - Honorary Fellowship
- 2003 Photo Espania book prize - Martin Parr, by Val Williams
- 1995 Wilkins Photography Prize

Collections

Archive of Modern Conflict, London, UK
Arts Council of Great Britain, UK
Arts Council of Ireland, Ireland
Australian National Gallery, Australia
Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, France
British Council, UK
Calderdale Council, Halifax, UK
Gemeentemuseum, the Netherlands
George Eastman House, Rochester, USA
Guernsey Museums, The Channel Islands
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, USA
Irish Museum of Modern Art, Ireland
Kodak, France
Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo, Japan
Minneapolis Institute of Arts, USA
Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany
Museum for Fotokunst, Odense, Denmark
Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA
Museum of Modern Art, Tampere, Finland
Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan
National Centre for Contemporary Arts, Moscow
National Museum of Fine Arts, Buenos Aires
Paris Audiovisual, France
Philadelphia Museum of Art, USA
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, USA
Santa Barbara Museum of Art, USA
Seagrams Collection, New York, USA
Sprengel Museum, Hannover, Germany
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Tate Modern, London, UK
The J. Paul Getty Museum, USA
The Public, West Bromwich, UK
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
Union Bank of Finland, Helsinki, Finland
Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, UK
Yokohama Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan



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